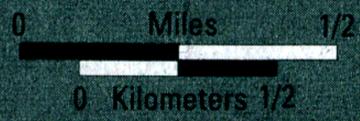


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Nisqually

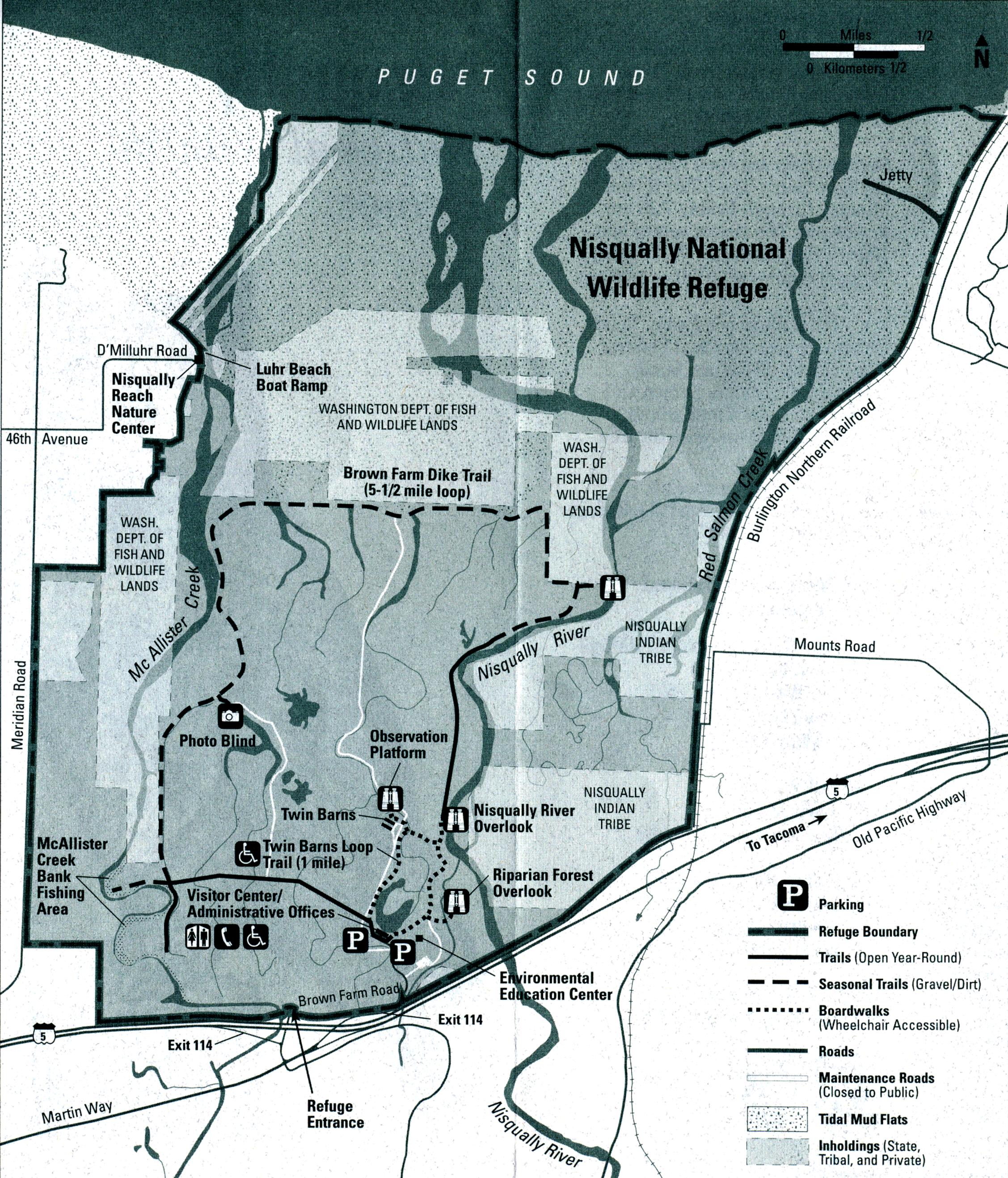
National Wildlife Refuge





PUGET SOUND

Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge



D'Milluhr Road

Nisqually Reach Nature Center

Luhr Beach Boat Ramp

WASHINGTON DEPT. OF FISH AND WILDLIFE LANDS

46th Avenue

Brown Farm Dike Trail (5-1/2 mile loop)

WASH. DEPT. OF FISH AND WILDLIFE LANDS

WASH. DEPT. OF FISH AND WILDLIFE LANDS

McAllister Creek

Red Salmon Creek

Burlington Northern Railroad

Jetty

Meridian Road

Photo Blind

Observation Platform

Nisqually River

NISQUALLY INDIAN TRIBE

Mounts Road

McAllister Creek Bank Fishing Area

Twin Barns

Nisqually River Overlook

NISQUALLY INDIAN TRIBE

Twin Barns Loop Trail (1 mile)

Riparian Forest Overlook

Visitor Center/
Administrative Offices

P **P**

Environmental Education Center

To Tacoma →

Old Pacific Highway

Exit 114

Exit 114

Brown Farm Road

Refuge Entrance

Nisqually River

Martin Way

P Parking

— Refuge Boundary

— Trails (Open Year-Round)

- - - Seasonal Trails (Gravel/Dirt)

..... Boardwalks (Wheelchair Accessible)

— Roads

— Maintenance Roads (Closed to Public)

▨ Tidal Mud Flats

▨ Inholdings (State, Tribal, and Private)

Wildlife-Dependent Recreation

Trails

The refuge has 7 miles of trails including a 1-mile loop trail and a 5.5-mile loop trail which provide views of wildlife habitats and access to observation decks and photo blinds. Please stay on the trails. Seasonal closures of trails occur throughout the year.

Boating

Boating is permitted in waters outside the Brown Farm Dike. Canoeists, kayakers and small boaters should beware of hazardous tides, shallow waters, wind and weather conditions around the Nisqually Delta. The nearest public boat ramp is at Luhr Beach.

Fishing

Fishing from boats is permitted in waters outside the Brown Farm Dike. Fishing from the river banks is permitted only in the designated McAllister Creek Bank Fishing Area. There is no bank fishing access along the Nisqually River. Washington State regulations apply.

No Hunting

The refuge is not open to hunting. However, waterfowl hunting is allowed on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife lands adjacent to the refuge.

Prohibited Activities

Jogging, pets, bicycling, fires, camping and firearms are prohibited on the refuge.

Education Programs

Reservations

Schools and other educational groups are required to make a reservation to visit the refuge.

Environmental Education Center

The Education Center is open weekdays to school and other educational groups by reservation only. The temporary Education Center (located adjacent to Maintenance facilities) will remain open until completion of new, permanent Education Center in Spring 2009.

A Protected Estuary

The Nisqually River Delta, a biologically rich and diverse area at the southern end of Puget Sound, supports a variety of habitats. Here, the freshwater of the Nisqually River combines with the saltwater of Puget Sound to form an estuary rich in nutrients and detritus. These nutrients support a web of sea life – the benefits which extend throughout Puget Sound and beyond.

Together with McAllister and Red Salmon Creeks, the Nisqually River forms one of the largest remaining relatively undisturbed estuaries in Washington. While most major estuaries in the state have been filled, dredged or developed, Nisqually River's has been set aside for wildlife. In 1974, Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge was established to protect the delta and its diversity of fish and wildlife habitats.

A Home for Wildlife

As surrounding wildlife habitat is lost to development, Nisqually Refuge has become an increasingly important place for wildlife, especially migratory birds. For some birds, the refuge is a place to feed and rest before continuing on, while for others it is the end of their seasonal journey. Western sandpipers and other shorebirds feed and rest on the estuarine mudflats and marshes. Ducks and geese feed and rest on the freshwater ponds and marshes.

Spring brings many songbirds – goldfinches, warblers and tree swallows can be seen in the forests and fields. Woodpeckers, hawks and small mammals are found in the woodlands, croplands and grasslands. Mixed conifer forests on the bluffs above the delta provide perches for bald eagles and osprey, and a nesting site for a colony of great blue herons. Salmon and steelhead use the estuary for passage to upriver areas.

A Place for People

Nisqually Refuge provides abundant opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation. Hiking, wildlife observation, wildlife photography, fishing and environmental education all allow visitors to learn more about the natural world and the importance of places rich in beauty and biological diversity.

General Information

Location

The refuge is located 8 miles east of Olympia, Washington. From Interstate 5, take exit 114 and follow the signs to the refuge.

Hours

Refuge trails are open daily during daylight hours. The office is open Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. The visitor center and Nature Shop are open Wednesday through Sunday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Entrance Fee

Daily fee is \$3.00 per family. Valid Refuge Annual Pass and Federal Duck Stamp admit one family. Interagency Annual, Senior, and Access Pass admit four adults. Children 16 and under enter free.

Special Accommodations

For people needing special accommodations, contact the Refuge Office at 360/753 9467.

Learn More About National Wildlife Refuges

Contact Us

Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge
100 Brown Farm Road
Olympia, Washington 98516
Telephone: 360/753 9467
Fax: 360/534 9302

1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>
<http://www.fws.gov/nisqually>

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages national wildlife refuges and national fish hatcheries throughout the country for the continued conservation, protection, and enhancement of our fish and wildlife resources and their habitats.

Washington Relay Service
TTY 1 800/833 6388
Voice 1 800/833 6384
Telebraille 1 800/833 6385

Federal Relay Service
TTY and Voice 1 800/877 8339

